

Serial No.: 09/189,112

Attorney Docket No.: 98P7917US

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant Amendment, claims 1-32 are pending.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claim 18 was indicated to be allowable if amended into independent form and to include all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 18 has been so amended and thus should be allowable. Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, and 16 have been amended to overcome the Section 112 rejections. Claims 21 has been amended, and claims 22-32 have been added, to more particularly point out Applicants' invention.

Claim 18 was objected to because of informalities regarding reference to "a ToL call," but was indicated to be allowable if amended into independent form and to overcome the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 18 has been so amended and thus should be allowable. Newly-added claims 22-24 depend from claim 18 and thus should likewise be allowable.

Claims 7-12 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Various terms were indicated to lack antecedent basis or be unclear. The claims have been amended to provide more explicit antecedent basis or greater clarity. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims.

Claims 6-8, 10, and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sriram et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,169,738 B1 ("Sriram"). In order for there to be anticipation, each and every element of the claimed invention must be present in a single, prior reference. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Sriram. As described in the Specification, and in response to previous Official Actions, one aspect of the invention relates to a combined ToL-PBX system which can support both ToL telephony and TFA or "Glass Phone" telephony. ToL telephony that uses local area networks may be

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based on the H.323 Recommendation and employs a server or gatekeeper that may gradually replace legacy PBXs. Telephony feature access (TFA) telephony employs a TFA or "glass phone" device also coupled to the local area network, but which receives its call processing through the TFA controller on the PBX. That is, in such a system, both ToL telephones and glass phones are coupled to a same local area network but receive call processing from independent entities, i.e., the ToL gatekeeper and the PBX. A problem in such a system is that the ToL gatekeeper is not aware of TFA calls processed by the PBX and their bandwidth usage. Embodiments of the present invention, however, allow the TFA bandwidth usage by one of the call processing entities to be accounted-for by the other.

The claims thus generally relate to ToL devices and TFA devices, or ToL calls and TFA calls. As noted above, this can allow a more effective migration from PBX to ToL-based systems. In contrast, Sriram appears to relate merely to voice calls being processed for handling on an ATM network. Sriram does not appear to relate to TFA calls/devices and ToL calls/devices, or handling of such calls/devices on a same LAN. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims.

Claims 1-5, 9, 11, 12-16, 17, and 19-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Sriram in view of Wang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,161,134 ("Wang"). Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Sriram or Wang, either singly or in combination. Sriram has been discussed above. Like Sriram, Wang does not appear to relate to TFA calls/devices and ToL calls/devices, or handling of such calls/devices on a same LAN, as generally recited in the claims at issue. Instead, Wang appears to relate merely to an Internet appliance suitable for use with Internet telephony. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims.

Newly-added Claims 25-32 contain limitations similar to allowed claim 18 and are

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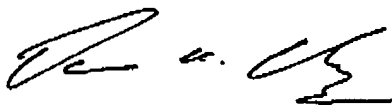
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likewise believed allowable.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,

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Date: *8 Jan. 04*

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